

# **Regional Interagency Coordinating Committee (RICC)**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **September 10, 2007**

#### **Introductions**

**Members Present:** Missi B., Jill S., Kimm S., Edna K., Gilda L., Merrill F., Elaine L., Cheryl A., Lori W., Darcy H., Sheri S., Judy B., Wanda S.

#### **Update Committee Member List**

**Review members, (add/delete)**

We reviewed the committee member list. We will be contacting the following members to see if they are still interested in being on the committee:

Lucy Hurt

ReAnn Kautzman

Cebe Schneider

Nichole Tooz

Julie Wald

Shonda Wild/Tara Bintz(follow up to see if both need to be on the committee or just one of them)

Kim Flohr

Kim Feininger

It was also suggested that we look into adding Sheila Walter (Childcare licensor for Region 8), a person from the medical field (suggestions were made to look at a Physician's Assistant or a Nurse Practitioner) and a legislator (a suggestion was made to contact Jim Kerzman)

Reimbursement Forms - Forms were handed out to participants.

#### **Possible Meeting Changes**

We will begin each meeting, starting in December, with a family story from a family that has been a consumer of early intervention services.

#### **K.I.D.S. Program Update**

Jill shared that the K.I.D.S program staff continued to stay busy over the summer and the fall has become even more hectic with 17 referrals so far since August. She also shared that many of the children referred are eligible (automatic/high risk and 25/2). Meeting the 45-day deadline has been challenging due to limited availability of evaluators.

Jill shared information on the budget. She submitted a budget with a unit rate higher than the approved budget she received back. The rate is about \$1.30 different per unit. She has not signed the new budget, but has responded to the state re: the budget amount not being an adequate amount to fund the program. She is still waiting to hear back from the state office officials that make the decisions re: the budget. Committee members may be called in for an emergency meeting once K.I.D.S. hears back from the state.

Jill also shared that St. Joseph's hospital is considering possible termination of purchase agreement between the state and the hospital. Jill has spoken to another agency in Dickinson that is interested in being the fiscal agent for the program. Harry Miller, D.D. PA for Badlands is aware of the possible change. The estimated time for this transition would be December 2007.

There will be a psychology student doing internship at the K.I.D.S program for this semester. The student will be interning a total of 90 hours.

#### Right Track Program Update

Kimm shared that she has been analyzing the data that she has with the Right Track Program in regards to how many children they have in the data base that are interested in having their child screened. She is planning on "starting over" with the program by reorganizing who gets screened and how often. She may be sending a letter to all the families currently in the data base giving families information on who to contact if they are still interested in having their child screened. She shared that St Joseph's Hospital had apx. 300 births per year for 2005 and 2006. It appears that 2007 will be very close to the same. The Region 8 Right Track budget only allows screenings of about 500 children per year, so this doesn't even allow each newborn to be screened 2x a year.

Kimm also shared that the screeners will be using a new screening tool for those children ages 4 months old and up. The tool is called "Ages and Stages". This is a tool that contains a Social/Emotional component. For those infants under 4 months the screeners will continue to use the Denver.

## Experienced Parent Update

### Family Voices Consultant

Missi shared that she is now a family consultant for Family Voices.

### Autism Speaks Presentation

Missi updated about the visit from Vicki Peterson on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Missi and Vicki toured the Early Childhood Center and met with Elaine and Cheryl. They also met with K.I.D.S. Program staff, Rehab Visions staff, and Voc Rehab Staff. In the evening they held an informational night for parents and professionals to attend.

### Upcoming Educational Topics

Through Missi's contract with Family Voices she will be holding 2 parent groups a month. One will be structured and educational by nature, the other one will be more of a "support" group. There will be time during this one for parents to share books, videos, websites that have been valuable to them. Families with children of all ages with special health care needs will be invited to attend both of these.

### Early Intervention Stories

Currently, Family Voices is looking for stories from families enrolled or transitioned out of Early Intervention. These stories will be put into a book format and shared with legislators that are part of the Infant Development Program Study.

## Training Opportunities

Crossroads Conference - October 2,3,4,5 in Bismarck. The cost is only \$15.00 (\$15.00 for the preconference October 2-3 and another \$15.00 for the main conference for the 3, 4, and 5). Parents of children enrolled in early intervention will have their costs (hotel, mileage, meals) reimbursed.

## Quality Improvement Plan Update

The state will be sending out updated data along with responses from the Quality Improvement plans that were submitted in June. We will share this information with the committee in December. Jill and Harry will be attending a Technical Assistance meeting in Carrington next week to look at Regional needs and address issues identified in the Quality Improvement Plan.

## Family Connections Conference Update

Currently both Part B and Part C are looking at moving their funding from the Family Connections Conference to other parent involvement opportunities. Missi will keep the committee informed on any updates regarding this.

#### Autism Guidelines Update

Jill and Missi shared information from the State IDEA and ICC joint meeting on September 6<sup>th</sup>. At the State IDEA and ICC joint meeting, a group of parents presented on their thoughts of the Autism Guidelines. They felt strongly that the guidelines should be re-looked at, with some of the language changed.

#### Mental Health Online Course

18 months ago Jill took an online course for CEED, in Minnesota. The state is now funding a person from each region to take this course. Peg Crane will be the interventionist taking it from our region.

#### Federal Part C Determination for ND (see handout)

Jill and Missi shared information they received from the State ICC meeting on September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. They also shared the hand out regarding the Federal Part C Determination that ND received. Currently ND is in the "Needs Intervention" category". Jill also shared about where our region is at on the state rating scale. We reviewed the indicators that are 100% compliance and Jill explained how the state technical assistance team rates each indicator. At the next meeting dig deeper into this data and formulate outcomes and activities to address the areas that Region 8 is out of compliance.

#### Part C Budget

Did not have time left to review the Part C budget.

#### Infant Development Program Study

Jill updated the committee on the Legislative Infant Development Study. Missi and Jill let everyone know that they can monitor the committee online. As state employees we cannot be soliciting people to testify or make phone calls in support of the Infant Development Programs.

#### Data

Transition (child count Data)  
45 Day timeline  
Referral  
Eligibility

Data

<b>July 06-June 07</b>	
<b>Eligibility Information</b>	
Automatic/High Risk	7
25/2	42
50	0
Informed Clinical Opinion	7
Not Interested	26
Referred to Right Track	8
Not Eligible	18
No Response	4
Referred to Part B	7
Transferred In	3
Total	122

<b>45 Day Timeline</b>	
No IFSP scheduled, Eligibility not determined	5
Not Interested/Not Eligible	66

0-25	4
26-35	15
36-45	25
46-55	5
56+	3
total referrals	123

<b>Average Age at Referral</b>	
<b>18</b>	<b>months</b>

<b>Referral Source</b>		
Right Track	48	38%
CAPTA	13	10%
St. Alexius	1	1%
Medcenter One	0	0%
Physician	30	24%
Parent	17	13%
Social Services (non capta)	1	1%
Health Track	3	2%
Rehab	2	2%
West River SS	3	2%
Other	4	3%
Other Program	3	2%
WIC	1	1%
Total	126	100%